

Amendments to the Drawings

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.121(d)(1), attached hereto is one annotated sheet depicting changes made to drawing Figures 1-3. The attached Figures 1-3 have been amended to add the "Prior Art" legend.

Also attached hereto is one replacement sheet of drawings, incorporating the changes made to Figures 1-3, which replaces the drawing figures originally submitted with the application.

Remarks

Reconsideration and allowance of this application, as amended, are respectfully requested.

The written description portion of the specification, claims 1, 2, 4, 5, and 7-10, the abstract of the disclosure, and drawing Figures 1-3 have been amended. Claims 3 and 6 have been canceled, and new claims 11-20 have been added. Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, and 7-20 are now pending in the application. Claims 1, 11, and 17 are independent. The objections and rejections are respectfully submitted to be obviated in view of the amendments and remarks presented herein. No new matter has been introduced through the foregoing amendments.

Applicants acknowledge with gratitude the indication of allowable subject matter. Therefore, solely in order to expedite allowance of the application, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter previously recited in now-canceled claim 6 (and a portion of the subject matter previously presented in intervening claim 4.)

The specification has been editorially amended for conformance with 37 CFR § 1.77(c), for consistency, and to correct any informalities. The abstract has been editorially amended for conformance with 37 CFR § 1.72(b).

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, and 7-10 have been editorially amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject

matter of Applicants' invention, and to more fully comply with U.S. practice.

New claims 11-20 have been added to further define the scope of protection sought for Applicants' invention.

Entry of each of the amendments is respectfully requested.

Objections to the Claims

The objections to the claims are respectfully deemed to be obviated. The grounds of objection identified in Office Action numbered paragraphs 1a, 1b, and 1d have been addressed by the amendment of claim 1.

The ground of objection identified in Office Action numbered paragraph 1c is respectfully traversed. As is evident from the description at specification page 3 (lines 12-14) and page 5 (final original paragraph), and from Figures 4 and 5, the resultant of the forces applied by the fasteners points toward the doctor blade chamber body.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections to the claims are respectfully requested.

Objection to the Drawings

The objection to the drawings is respectfully deemed to be obviated. The ground of objection identified in Office Action

numbered paragraph 3 has been addressed by the cancellation of claim 3.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to the drawings are respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

In view of the claim amendments, the rejection under § 102(b) is respectfully deemed to be obviated. The Office Action indicates that claims 6-9 contain allowable subject matter. As indicated above, in order to expedite allowance of the application, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter previously recited in now-canceled claim 6. Claims 2, 4, 5, and 7-10 are also believed to be in condition for allowance, since each of claims 2, 4, 5, and 7-10 depends either directly or indirectly from claim 1.

New independent claim 11 is also allowable. Claim 11 defines a color chamber doctor blade that includes "a fastener for applying a force that enables the clamping plate to fix the doctor blade knife, such that a resultant of the force applied by the fastener points from the clamping plate toward the doctor blade chamber body." Dependent claims 12-16 are also allowable because each claim includes additional limitations not met by the cited prior art reference.

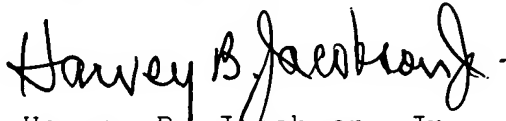
New independent claim 17 is also allowable. Claim 17 defines a color chamber doctor blade that includes "a clamping plate for fixing the doctor blade knife to a doctor blade chamber body, the clamping plate including a top piece with a clamp," and "a rotatable fastener for applying a force that enables the clamping plate to fix the doctor blade knife, the fastener having a recessed surface with a shoulder for communicating with the clamp." Upon rotation of the fastener in a first direction, "the clamp engages the shoulder so as to provide the force that enables the clamping plate to fix the doctor blade knife." Dependent claims 18-20 are also allowable because each claim includes additional limitations not met by the cited prior art reference.

Entry of each of the amendments is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, this application is now in condition for allowance. If the examiner believes that an interview might expedite prosecution, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Fig. 1

PRIOR ART

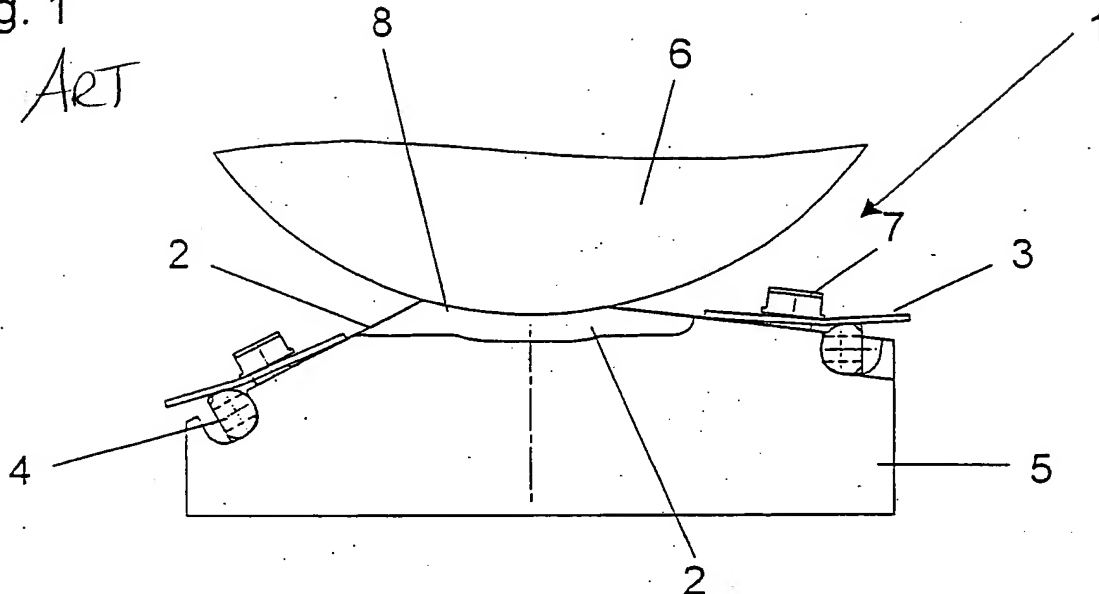


Fig. 2

PRIOR ART

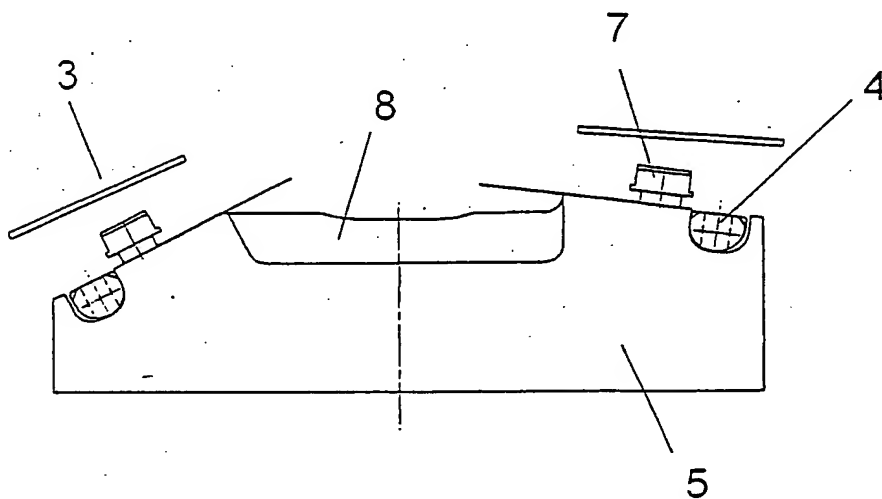


Fig. 3

PRIOR ART

